

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

~~Disclosed is a~~ A sling for fixing or carrying loads, ~~consisting of~~ includes a tubular tissue ~~[(4)]~~ or a tube-like tissue or fabric having two ends ~~(5, 6)~~, one of ~~[[said]]~~ the ends being narrower than or approximately as large as, and the other end being larger than or approximately as large as, the remaining tubular tissue located between the two ends. The two ends ~~(5, 6)~~ form a junction point ~~[(7)]~~ by inserting the narrower end ~~[(5)]~~ into the larger end ~~[(6)]~~ and providing ~~[[said]]~~ the narrower end ~~[(5)]~~ with at least one seam ~~[(8)]~~ in the area of the junction point ~~[(7)]~~, whereby the junction point ~~[(7)]~~ is thinner, shorter, or narrower at a predefined strength than in conventional overlapping ends. ~~Disclosed are uses of such slings~~ The sling may be used in skiing, mountain climbing, and in the area of work safety.